

NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92134-5000

DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY

DESCRIPTION OF CLINICAL CLERKSHIP

LOCATION: Naval Medical Center, San Diego

LENGTH OF Rotation: Four weeks

SCHEDULING: Clinical clerkships in Otolaryngology are arranged by the Graduate Medical Education (GME) Office at NMCS. This office forwards requests to the Otolaryngology Program Coordinator for review, approval, and schedule availability. The clinical clerk is then contacted by the GME office in reply.

EXPERIENCE: The Otolaryngology Department has 7 board certified faculty members, specializing in head and neck oncology, facial plastic and reconstructive surgery, rhinology, neurotology, pediatric otolaryngology, and comprehensive otolaryngology. The staff and residents are divided into two teams, and clinical clerks will be working as an integral member of each team for 2 weeks each.

Each week is divided into two days in the operating room, two days in clinic, and one academic day. In clinic, you will learn a thorough head and neck history and physical exam, to include nasopharyngoscopy and otologic microscopy. While in clinic you will assist the duty resident with acute referrals, handling a myriad of clinical scenarios such as management and drainage of peritonsillar abscesses, closed reduction of nasal fractures, epistaxis control, deep neck abscesses and upper aerodigestive tract foreign bodies. In the operating room, you will have the opportunity to assist in the vast array of procedures performed by the various sub-specialists (rhinoplasty, septorhinoplasty, direct laryngoscopy, endoscopic sinus surgery, neck dissection, thyroidectomy, etc). Each Friday is dedicated to academics. Regular conferences include pre-operative review, post-operative review, grand rounds, tumor board, head and neck radiology conference, resident/staff lectures, M & M, and journal club. Clinical Clerks will be asked to give a half hour lecture on a topic of their choice towards the end of their rotation.

The Otolaryngology Department's clinical setting and dedicated staff provide an excellent learning experience. With the

experience gained, clinical clerks should be able to recognize and handle routine otolaryngologic situations.

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

- Primary Care Otolaryngology. [www.entnet.org/primarycare](http://www.entnet.org/primarycare)
- Lalwani AK. Current Diagnosis and Treatment in Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery. 2008.
- Paff GH. Anatomy of the Head and Neck. 1973. (copy available in Dept)